

Idea-0075

Cy No. ____

28 November 1960

MEMORANDUM FOR: Acting Chief, Development Projects Division

SUBJECT : Development Projects Division Authorized Strength

REFERENCES : A. Breakdown of DPD on Board Strength vs. Authorized Strength as of 14 October 1960.
 B. Memorandum for DD/P, dated 21 November 1960, from AC/DPD, Subject: "Detachment B". (Idea-0056)

1. Reference A presented in column one a summary of the authorized strength of DPD by components [REDACTED] which is in accord with the records of SSA/DDS. I understand this covers only Agency and assigned Military personnel, chargeable to the Agency's personnel ceiling, and that it excludes contractor personnel of all types. The breakdown shown in Reference A was obviously necessarily out of date because it could not as of that date reflect certain pending decisions about the future organization of IDEALIST activities. Accordingly, in response to my request you submitted Reference B on 21 November, the attachments to which give modified T/O figures for the three components of DPD (Edwards, [REDACTED] that constitute the Idealist capability.

2. In an effort to keep track of DPD's requirements for personnel I have compared below the authorized strength by component as of 14 October with the modified figures submitted with Reference B.

Departmental

14 October 1960

21 November 1960

Headquarters

U.S. Field

Edwards

Field Sup Compt

Base E (Eglin)

Sub-total



-2-

Foreign Field

25X1A

25X1A



Kadena

25X1A



25X1A

Sub-total



TOTALS:

25X1A

25X1A

The main changes reflected above as between Reference A and Reference B are the reduction of [redacted] to a token force, a slight increase in the personnel required [redacted] and a sizeable increase in the T/O for Edwards. Taken together these changes would permit a net reduction of 30 in the total authorized strength of the Division.

25X1A

3. I am well aware of course that you contemplate certain other changes in authorized strength. I understand you need some increase in Headquarters. I know of no recent developments, however, that would justify any increase in the supply depot, Eglin or Kadena or in the [redacted] Detachment. I believe you should take a hard look at the unit described as "Field Sup Compt". I am unclear what this is or why we have to have a supplementary complement if Edwards is to have an authorized strength of 52 exclusive of any such complement. I also question the need for as many as 5 people at [redacted] under present circumstances. As for your plans at Headquarters, I sincerely hope the most rigorous efforts are being made to live with a minimum increase in strength. I realize that activities in support of JMARC may place temporarily a heavy burden on the Division. On the other hand, this coincides at a time when IDEALIST activities are at a minimum and are most unlikely to require anything like as many manhours as they did prior to last May. You should make every effort to see to it that personnel, especially in Operations, are used flexibly to meet whatever needs are most urgent at any given time so as to avoid a situation in which certain Ops personnel are underemployed while others are overworked.

25X1A

-3-

4. I am aware that you will in due time present a proposed revised T/O for Headquarters. In the meanwhile, I would like to know whether any of the components of DPD for which T/Os were not furnished with Reference B are subject to change. I might say that I intend to take advantage of the reduction of Detachment B to achieve some reduction in the authorized strength for the Division as a whole reflecting the gradual shift of our resources away from IDEALIST into new programs as evidenced by the sizeable build up at Base D provided for in your present authorized strength.

RICHARD M. BESSELL, JR.
Deputy Director
(Plans)

#1-Addressees
#2-Asst. Cf. DPD
#3-DD/P

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